

Claims

1. A method for data entry into the content of cells belonging to an output field, said data being expressed as a mathematical expression of the cell contents of at least one input field in a data multidimensional table used by a data management application, said table comprising cells arranged as a grid of records and fields, each cell corresponding to the intersection of one record with one field, each cell being identified by a cell address and comprising a cell content, said table having one specific record in which each cell content is entered as a unique character string label identifying each table field, said method comprising the steps of:

entering labels corresponding to the at least one input field and a label corresponding to the output field, said later label being expressed as the mathematical expression of said labels of said at least one input field;

parsing the label of the output field into a mathematical expression by identifying the numeric operands, the operators and the at least one existing input field label;

translating in the mathematical expression, the at least one existing input field label into the address of the cell containing the at least one input field label; and,

for each cell of the output field, pasting in the cell content the translated mathematical expression and replacing in said pasted mathematical expression each cell address of the at least

one input field label by the cell address of the at least input field belonging to the same record.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of replacing the output field cell contents by the computed
5 mathematical expression applied to the cell contents corresponding to the cell addresses of the at least input field belonging to the same record.

3. The method of anyone of claim 1 to 2 further comprising the steps of :
10 repeating the preceding steps to compute the content of the cells of any additional output field in the table, wherein said content can be expressed as a mathematical expression of the cell contents of at least one input field.

4. The method of anyone of claim 1 or 3 wherein the step of
15 parsing the label includes a transformation of the cell content type from a character string into a computable mathematical expression.

5. The method of anyone of claims 1 to 4 wherein the mathematical expression comprises complex operators developed as
20 functions in the data management application.

6. The method of anyone of claims 1 to 5 further comprising an initial step of selecting the input and output fields forming the data multidimensional table in a larger data multidimensional table.

25 7. The method of anyone of claims 1 to 6 wherein after the step of entering labels, the following steps are executed only if a

further step of starting computation of the cell contents of the output field is triggered.

8. The method of anyone of claims 1 to 7 wherein the fields and records are respectively the columns and rows if the data
5 multidimensional table is vertically arranged or are respectively the rows and columns if the data multidimensional table is horizontally arranged.
9. The method of anyone of claim 1 to 8 wherein the specific
10 record in the data multidimensional table is respectively the top record in a vertically arranged table and the first left record in a horizontally arranged table.
10. A data processing system comprising means adapted for carrying out anyone of the steps of the method according to anyone of claims 1 to 9.
- 15 11. A computer program product comprising programming code instructions for executing the steps of the method according to anyone of claims 1 to 9 when said program is executed on a computer.